

Applicant : Anthony R. Perez et al.  
Appl. No. : 10/023,587  
Examiner : Michael J. Hayes  
Docket No. : 706737.41

### Amendments to the Claims

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

Please Amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 – 63 (cancelled).

64. (amended) The guard of claim 101 63, wherein the locking detents have tapered proximal edges and blunt distal edges for substantially permanently receiving the lip on the syringe thereunder.

65. (previously presented) The guard of claim 101 63, wherein the locking detents define slots for receiving the lip therein, thereby preventing the syringe from being removed proximally from the body.

Claims 66 – 72 (cancelled).

73. (previously presented) The guard of claim 102 72, wherein the locking detents have tapered proximal edges and blunt distal edges for substantially permanently receiving the lip on the syringe thereunder.

74. (previously presented) The guard of claim 102 72, wherein the locking detents define slots for receiving the lip therein, thereby preventing the syringe from being removed proximally from the body.

Claims 75-97 (cancelled).

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98. (previously presented) A guard for a syringe comprising a proximal end and a distal end, a lip on the proximal end, and a needle extending from the distal end, the guard comprising:

a body for receiving the syringe axially through an open proximal end of the body, and comprising an open distal end, the body comprising one or more lateral surfaces defining a recess for receiving the proximal end of the syringe therein, the one or more lateral surfaces comprising one or more slots for receiving at least a portion of the lip of the syringe therein for substantially permanently locking the syringe to the body;

a shield slidably attached to the body, and having open proximal and distal ends, the shield being slidable between an unguarded and a guarded position, the needle on the syringe extending through the open distal end in the unguarded position and being covered by the shield in the guarded position; and

cooperating detents on the shield and body for holding the shield in the unguarded and guarded positions.

99. (previously presented) The guard of claim 98, further comprising a finger hold on the shield.

100. (Cancelled).

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101. (new) A guard for a syringe comprising a proximal end and a distal end, a lip on the proximal end, and a needle extending from the distal end, the guard comprising:

a body comprising a cavity for receiving the syringe axially therein through an open proximal end of the body, and comprising an open distal end;

one or more lateral surfaces on the proximal end of the body defining a recess for receiving the proximal end of the syringe therein, the lateral surfaces comprising a locking mechanism for substantially permanently engaging the lip on the proximal end of the syringe received in the cavity;

a shield slidably attached to the body, and having open proximal and distal ends, the shield being slidable between an unguarded and a guarded position, the needle on the syringe extending through the open distal end in the unguarded position and being covered by the shield in the guarded position; and

cooperating detents on the shield and body for holding the shield in the unguarded and guarded positions, wherein the locking mechanism comprises locking detents in the lateral surfaces for engaging the proximal end of the syringe received in the cavity, thereby substantially permanently locking the syringe in the body.

102. (new) A syringe comprising:

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a syringe holding medication comprising proximal and distal ends, the syringe comprising a needle extending from the distal end and a lip on the proximal end;

a body comprising a cavity for receiving the syringe axially therein through an open proximal end of the body, and comprising an open distal end;

one or more lateral surfaces on the proximal end of the body defining a recess for receiving the proximal ends of the syringe therein, the lateral surfaces comprising a locking mechanism for engaging the lip to substantially permanently encapsulate the syringe in the body;

a shield slidably attached to the body, and having open proximal and distal ends, the shield being slidable between an unguarded and a guarded position, thereby uncovering and covering, respectively, the needle on the syringe; and

cooperating detents on the shield and body for holding the shield in the guarded and unguarded positions, wherein the locking mechanism comprises locking detents in the lateral surfaces for engaging the proximal end of the syringe received in the cavity, thereby substantially permanently locking the syringe in the body.